

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Our 111th year of serving the Carbondale area - home of Genevieve Ross

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FORMER HEAVYWEIGHT BOXER FLOYD PATTERSON came to Carbondale Monday, December 11, to speak to students at the Carbondale Area Junior Senior High School and Sacred Heart High School. Patterson told the students that "No one is ever a loser," and that the students should have faith in themselves and they shouldn't turn to chemicals for

self confidence. Mayor Fred J. Mancuso presented the Olympic gold medal winner and two-time world heavyweight champ with a key to the city. Pictured above from left to right is the mayor, Patterson and Father Joseph Sica who helped arrange for Patterson's visit.

Residents share thoughts about school building conversion

Feelings mixed about Ben Franklin school

By MIKE PETROVSKY
Converting the old Benjamin Franklin High School into apartments for the elderly has met with mixed feelings among those who attended the school. Thomas Ruddy of the Housing Authority expects the building conversion to begin "just weeks down the road." He said the Housing Authority is awaiting final approval of construction documents from the state Housing and Urban Development office in Philadelphia. "We are expecting HUD's approval to come any day now," he said. Some former students do not share Ruddy's enthusiasm for converting the Ben Franklin into apartments. "I wish they'd leave it as a school," said Mary Parker of 111 Birkett St. who attended the old high school in 1933. Run Williams, 311 Dundaff St., graduated from Ben Franklin in 1960 and he said that the new Carbondale Area Junior Senior High School is in a bad location and that he would have preferred that the district add a gymnasium onto Ben Franklin and continue using the old school. But Williams said that it's too late to change things now the conversion is under way. "What else would they do with it?" she asked. Betty Frow, 6 Belmont St., who graduated from Ben Franklin in the '40s

told the NEWS she thinks the building is deteriorating the way it is now and she said its central location makes it perfect for senior citizens because churches and grocery stores and within walking distance. Jim Brady, 391 Belmont St., attended Ben Franklin in 1966. He said the conversion is a "good deal" for older people because the building is not far from the major streets in town. "It's better than letting it sit there and end up getting torn down," Brady said. Grace Conner, 71 Wayne St., who volunteered her opinions to the NEWS for the second time, said she thinks the apartment complex should be called the Benjamin Franklin High Rise. "Then it would feel as though the school is still living," the 1944 graduate suggested.

Carbondale man killed in accident

John Albert Tolero, 27, of 205 Washington St., was one of the two men killed when their car collided head-on early Saturday morning on Route 6 near the Archbold Police State Park. Also killed in the mishap was Harold Jobe, 57, of Scranton. Jobe was an employee at the Gemet Corporation. Police said the Tolero car burst into flames upon impact and the victim was trapped inside. Lehigh County Coroner William Sweeney, who conducted autopsy on the victims Saturday afternoon at Scranton State Central Hospital, said Tolero died of multiple fractures to the skeletal system, including the skull, jaw and lower extremities. Jobe, according to witnesses in separate cars were traveling in front of the Jobe car, which was westbound on Route 6. The policeman said the two cars were forced to the left side of the road by the Tolero vehicle. The section of Route 6 where the crash occurred is a three-lane stretch of highway.

Firemen work all night to bail out basements

Firemen responded to over 60 calls dealing with flooded basements from 1 a.m. during that 24-hour period. Fireman Jim Brownell reported that basements were flooded throughout the city with Terrace Street and 7th Avenue being particularly bad. The tennis courts at Russell Park were reportedly flooded, as well as basements on Cortland Street. Burrell said three paid drivers and nine volunteers took shifts pumping out flooded cellars. He recommended that homeowners who get water in their basements invest in a good sump pump. "They're well worth it," Burrell said.

City council approves three of mayor's five appointments

By MIKE PETROVSKY
The Carbondale City Council approved three of Mayor Fred Mancuso's five appointments at a public meeting held Monday, December 19. Council voted 4-3 to approve mayor's appointment of Donald Brownell to the Housing Authority Board with council members Andy Leo, Abe Cahola, James McMyne and Frank Greco Jr. voting for the approval, and council members Charlotte Mayo, Don McKeough and council president Michael Tolero voting against. In a 5-4 vote, the council approved the mayor's appointment of Martin Andrews to the Recreation Commission with council members Leo, McMyne, Greco, McKeough and Tolero voting in favor, and council members Andy Leo, Abe Cahola, James McMyne and Frank Greco Jr. voting for the approval, and council members Charlotte Mayo, Don McKeough and council president Michael Tolero voting against. In a 5-4 vote, the council approved the mayor's appointment of Martin Andrews to the Recreation Commission with council members Leo, McMyne, Greco, McKeough and Tolero voting in favor, and council members Andy Leo, Abe Cahola, James McMyne and Frank Greco Jr. voting for the approval, and council members Charlotte Mayo, Don McKeough and council president Michael Tolero voting against.



SANTA CLAUS paid a morning visit to Carbondale last Saturday and visited with children in City Hall. The visit was sponsored by the Pioneer Days Committee. Pictured here with Santa are Susan (left) and Marianne Moran, daughters of John and Mary Ellen Moran, 194 South Main Street. (NEWS Photo)

What's in a name? For some, a page of local history

By CY GROSVENOR
Forever is an eternity, but some nicknames will last that long. Giovanni Di Bernardino is a name that is recognized by very few. By his nickname he is known by millions. Giovanni journeyed to France with his father. He is credited as the first to travel and introduce the dress and manners of the French when he returned to Italy. His companion dubbed him "Il Francese" (The Frenchman) entered the religious life. He founded an order of

number of residents who bore colorful and unusual nicknames, as had Carbondale. It didn't take much: a slip of the tongue or a wise-crack, and a nickname was born. The Jones family with their "Sammy," "Mildy" and "Fiddle" is an excellent example. The Emmets with their "Tucker" and "Bumper" is another. Christening a son with the mother's maiden name was a guarantee that the boy wouldn't be long without a nickname. Thursday and Friday A son was born to Robert and Gladys Edwards

Richardson and given his grandfather's name, Robert Edwards. His grandmother and his grandfather named him "Edwards." To everyone else he was "Pete." A flip answer could, and did, result in a person being tagged with a nickname. "Channel" (Chan-ell) Barry. A chance remark resulted in the birth of a nickname. A perfect example is this: A young fellow reported one morning for his first day of work at a Kansas coal mine. As he waited at the shaft where workers were lowered into the mine, his

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